

his early home, he received a good education and was taught the lessons of honesty, economy and industry. These represented the capital that he brought with him to the new country, and they have been to him more than money to many a young man starting out in life. He has been a hard worker at all times, and did well the task that he had in hand. Whether on the farm, in the shop or in the store as a clerk, he felt the dignity of his position, and his highest ambition was to do his work to the best of his ability. He has always taken a keen interest in local affairs and has been prominent in local politics.

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### GJERT J. KVIDT.

Gjert J. Kvidt, a prosperous farmer of Flom township, Norman county, where he owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and fifty-two acres, which he has developed from the raw prairie, was born in Norway, August 11, 1862, a son of Johanes and Margretta (Urdahl) Kvidt, both of whom are natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and reared their family. Feeling that they could establish themselves comfortably in America, on the soil of the Northwest, of which they had heard much from their friends and relatives who had come to this country, they immigrated to this country in 1869 and settled in Houston county, this state, and lived there for nine years. In 1878 they with four sons and one daughter moved to the Red River valley and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Flom township, Norman county, where they have continued to live. Several years ago, they sold a part of their holding to their son, the subject of this review, and they have continued to live here with him, still retaining forty acres of their original tract, on which they raise stock. They are the parents of five children, all of whom are living here in Norman county; they are as follow: Engbert, farmer in section 8, this township; Gjert J., the subject of this review; Jens, a farmer of section 12, this township; Anna, now Mrs. Nels Albertson, and Martin, who farms in section 6, this township.

Gjert J. Kvidt received his only schooling in the common schools in Houston county. After his parents had come to this county he contributed his industry to the development of the family holding, and finally, about twenty-five years ago, he bought a part of his father's farm and has continued to farm it successfully since. The part of the home farm, which he

bought was entirely unimproved, and by his perseverance and thrift, he has made it what it is, a fine farm well-cultivated and improved by the fine set of buildings and grove. In the early years of his residence on his holding, he used oxen for draught animals, and when he marketed his grain, he was compelled to drive these patient but plodding beasts to Ada, a journey of twenty-three miles, which took an entire day. He has three horses now, and he does most of his farm work with machinery. He carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture and, in addition to this, he raises some stock.

Mr. Kvidt has never married, but he makes his home here with his father and mother. He is a member of the Wild Rice Norwegian Lutheran church, and takes a proper interest in the affairs of the congregation. Politically, he is an advocate of Republican principles and policies, but he has never sought after public office. This does not mean that he takes no part in the civic, social, business and political affairs of the community, for when any movement is instituted here with the object of bettering the community in any of these phases, it is assured of Mr. Kvidt's hearty support and co-operation. Although he has not sought any office, Mr. Kvidt has served as clerk for his school district for sixteen years and is still holding the office. In 1910 he also took the United States census in Flom township.

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#### MARTINUS AASGAARD.

The late Martinus Aasgaard, for years one of the best-known and most progressive farmers and stockmen of Home Lake township, Norman county, the proprietor of a fine farm in that neighborhood and one of the early settlers of that part of the county, was a native of Norway, born in that country in 1858, but had been a resident of America since he was eleven years old. In 1869 Martinus Aasgaard came to the United States and proceeded on out to Wisconsin, where he was married in 1884 and in April of the following year moved to Home Lake, all his worldly possessions being represented by fifty dollars in cash. His brother, Ole, was teaching school in Home Lake township and he procured a team and he and his wife rode to John Homelvig's place, near Home Lake, where his brother Ole was boarding. He returned the team to Ada, making the return journey to Home Lake on foot, covering twenty-six miles, largely covered by swamps and water.